

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from the Uranium Mining Area

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT until 26 April 1953DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 3 June 1953REFERENCES PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____REMARKS _____

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SOURCE

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1. On 15 April 1953, source determined that the barracks installation on Lenin Strasse, Annaberg, was no longer used by Soviet troops. Individual houses were already inhabited by Germans. The barracks installation at the intersection of Lenin Strasse and Lessing Strasse was also vacant.
2. On 15 April, the boys school northeast of Voigt Strasse, at Michaelis Gallery, was occupied by about 200 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 100 soldiers organized into groups of 4 to 12 men were seen entering and leaving the installation. There was no vehicular traffic.
3. On 15 April, the Mehnert Factory was occupied by about 500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with motor transport, artillery and construction engineer insignia. In mid-March, soldiers with black-bordered crimson epaulets were observed there. About 80 troops engaged in athletic exercise, about 100 soldiers were seen in the billeting area and about 250 soldiers were seen marching into, or marching out of, the installation or leaving the installation by truck and bus having numbers with the prefix letters P or M. A total of 10 officers, including 2 majors, were seen. The installation was about 35 percent lighted at dusk.¹
4. On 15 April, the barracks installation between Voigt Strasse and Kleinrueckerswalder Strasse was vacant. Several buildings of the installation were inhabited by civilians and the main building was said to have been turned into a school.² Only little activity was noticed in the installation on Jungfernstieg. Sentries there wore red-bordered black epaulets. Two officers and about 40 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying rifles marched into the installation on 14 April. At dusk, the installation was illuminated by arch lamps, while the buildings proper were only about 25 percent lighted.
5. On 26 April, the restricted Auerbach area No I quartered about 1,000 troops who wore red bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical-service and signal insignia. About 200 soldiers were seen in the billeting area, and about 400 other troops were either seen marching in and out of the installation or driving in and out by truck with numbers having the prefix letter M or P.

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A total of about 40 officers was observed. They included 2 colonels, 1 lieutenant colonel, 4 majors wearing red-bordered golden epaulets and 1 colonel, and 2 majors wearing red-bordered silver epaulets. Troops were daily engaged in firing practice with rifles, submachine guns and light machine guns near the installation. On 26 April, about 300 soldiers in groups of 10 men engaged in endurance runs.

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6. Prior to 26 April, the restricted area No II was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 300 soldiers were daily seen in the billeting area, and about 600 more soldiers were seen entering or leaving the installation. Troops engaged in basic drill and field training with rifles, submachine guns and light machine guns on the drill grounds. About forty officers, including 2 colonels, 2 lieutenant colonels and 4 majors were observed. Between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on 22 April, about 400 troops wearing black-bordered crimson and red-bordered black epaulets engaged in a field exercise in the area between Auerbach and Rodewisch. They practiced advancing in groups, firing with blank cartridges. Observed were rifles, submachine guns and, at least, 12 machine guns.

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7. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation at pit No 60, southwest of Eibenstocker Strasse, Johanngeorgenstadt, was partly occupied by about 500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 300 troops organized into groups of 40 to 60 soldiers were seen marching in, or out of, the installation.
8. On 21 April, the barracks installation west of the townhall was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 60 officers including 2 colonels and 6 majors were observed. About 800 troops equipped with rifles and submachine guns marched out of the installation or left or entered the installation by truck. On 8 April, about 20 officers including a major, and about 120 soldiers organized into three groups entered the installation from the direction of Eibenstock. The troops carried light equipment.

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9. On 21 April, the Box furniture factory on Karl Marx Strasse and Linden Strasse was partly occupied by about 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. A total of 10 officers, including 1 major, was observed. About 120 soldiers in groups of 4 to 16 men marched in and out of the installation. From 10 to 12 soldiers were always engaged in maintenance duty on motor vehicles in the yard.

10. On 21 April, the Wendler factory was occupied by about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical-service and signal insignia. About 800 troops in groups of 6 to 20 soldiers left or entered the installation by foot or by truck and bus.

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About 100 soldiers drilled at group level on the athletic field in front of the installation. About 80 to 100 soldiers were daily assigned for the transportation of ore. They would leave on trucks

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11. On 24 April, the Kutscher factory north of the Schwarzenberg railroad station was occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 80 officers including 3 colonels and 8 majors were observed. About 10 officers wore green ribbons around their caps. Groups of 8 to 36 soldiers marched out to relieve the guards.

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12. Prior to 24 April, the Kleine Kaserne southwest of the Aue-Schneeberg road was occupied to capacity by about 2,000 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. A total of about 50 officers including 2 colonels and 3 majors was observed. About 200 troops engaged in drill at group level in the yard. About 800 troops in groups of 6 to 40 men were seen coming from, or leaving for, guard duty. Until 24 April, the multi-story building about 100 meters south-east of the Kleine Kaserne was occupied by troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets. About 200 soldiers were seen in the yard. About 40 officers of all branches of service, including a colonel wearing red-bordered golden epaulets and a colonel and six majors wearing red-bordered silver epaulets were seen in traffic to the multi-story building.³ On 14 April, sedan occupied by a general and 2 field grade officers entered the installation. the multi-story

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13. Prior to 24 April, the Neue Kaserne south of the Aue-Schwarzenberg railroad line was partly occupied by about 800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport, artillery, construction engineer, medical-service or signal insignia. About 200 troops were seen in the billeting area, about 40 soldiers engaged in drill and about 250 other soldiers were seen entering or leaving the installation by truck and bus. A total of about 30 officers including a colonel and two majors was observed.

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14. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation in Breitenbrunn was still occupied by 350 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets including some with engineer insignia and by about 250 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. A major was the ranking officer. The soldiers were employed in the shafts. Groups of 10 soldiers each engaged in close-order drill in the barracks yard.¹

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15. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation in Beierfeld was still occupied by 450 to 500 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with engineer insignia.¹ [redacted] A soldier told source that the colonel quartered in this barracks installation was named Mikhailov (fnu), and that he drove sedan [redacted]. Between 13 to 18 April, 120 soldiers were daily brought to the firing range near Waschleithe for firing practice with live ammunition by two vehicles furnished by the central garage. 25X1C
16. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation in Raschau was still occupied by about 150 soldiers who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and about 20 soldiers who wore black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. The troops with black-bordered crimson epaulets were assigned to guard duty in the shafts at installation No 8.
17. Prior to 21 April, the Kutscher factory in Schwarzenberg was occupied by about 450 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. These troops were not assigned to duty in the shafts. Between 6 and 12 April, five platoons of 40 soldiers each equipped with carbines and submachine guns and equipped with 1 light machine gun per squad were seen marching to the training area west of Waschleithe. They were commanded by a captain. [redacted] 25X1C
[redacted] A unit of 150 soldiers each was stationed in Crandorf, south of Schwarzenberg, in the quarters on Antons-hoehe and in the shafts east of the Hirschsprung and in Hammerwald. The troops wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Of these units, only that in Crandorf is assigned to guard duty. Another unit of about 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets is quartered in a three-story building about 2 km northeast of Antonsthal, immediately along the road. The assignment of these soldiers could not be learned. An AAA emplacement was determined on Lehmberg (hill) near Schwarzenberg. The emplacement is difficult to approach.
18. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation near pit No 60, south of Eibenstocker Strasse in Johanngeorgenstadt was occupied by about 500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and who were assigned to guard duty in the shafts.
19. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation between Dimitroff Strasse and Eibenstocker Strasse, which consists of four 4-story buildings and 2 low wooden buildings quartered about 500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. The soldiers were assigned as drivers in the shafts of installation No 8. They drove vehicles of the Wismut Corporation. On 21 April, the AAA emplacement on Dimitroff Strasse was occupied by 7 x 37-mm AA guns which were surrounded by a mound of earth about 1.20 meters high. A range finder, about 175 cm long and about 15 cm in diameter, and mounted on a tripod stood in the emplacement. Two low wooden buildings, each about 20 meters long, and a vehicle shed were situated along the western edge of the emplacement.
20. Prior to 21 April, the Box furniture factory which consists of 2 four-story buildings quartered about 500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. The soldiers were assigned to guard duty in the shafts of installation No 8. [redacted] 25X1C

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21. Prior to 21 April, the barracks installation on Karl Marx Strasse, which consists of a new three-story brick building, was occupied by about 350 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. About 10 groups each of 10 to 15 soldiers engaged in close-order drill in the barracks yard.⁶

22. Until 21 April, the Wendler factory was occupied by about 500 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, except for the NCOs who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About two thirds of the troops wore closely cropped hair. They engaged in basic infantry training only.

23. On 18 April, about 400 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and coming from the barracks installation in Frohnau were at the municipal bath of Annaberg. A practice attack held at about 2 p.m. on 20 April southwest of the barracks installation involved about 50 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. Forty soldiers with fixed bayonets launched an attack against 10 soldiers in foxholes. Seven soldiers were training dogs in front of the main gate.

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24. At about 5 p.m. on 16 April, about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and coming from the Mehnert Kaserne engaged in rifle firing on the target range at the Poehlberg (hill), while three platoons each of 35 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets engaged in practice marches on Stalin Platz. At 9:30 a.m. on 21 April, about 450 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen at the northern edge of the Poehlberg (hill), working their way forward toward dummy soldiers in the dense woods.

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1. Comment. The information tends to indicate that the occupation of the installations has not been changed.

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2. Comment. It appears that a second quartering building in Annaberg was vacated. The units were said to have been transferred to Chemnitz where they have not yet been observed.

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4. Comment. Probably confused with a censorship office known from previous information.

5. Comment. The number of troops in these three installations has possibly been decreased.

6. Comment. The installation is reported for the first time.

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